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Crime prevention and criminal justice

Report of the Third Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Oksana **Boiko** (Ukraine)

I. Introduction

1. At its 19th plenary meeting, on 20 September 2002, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Crime prevention and criminal justice" and to allocate it to the Third Committee.

2. The Committee considered the item jointly with item 101 at its 2nd to 6th, 9th and 15th meetings, on 30 September and on 1, 2, 7 and 10 October 2002. An account of the Committee's discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.3/57/SR.2-6, 9 and 15).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Relevant sections of the report of the Economic and Social Council for 2002 (A/57/3);[1]

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders (A/57/135);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on strengthening the Terrorism Branch of the Secretariat (A/57/152 and Corr.1, Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1 and Add.2);

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity (A/57/153);

(e) Report of the Secretary-General on the preparations for the Eleventh Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (A/57/154);

[1] To be issued in *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No.3* (A/57/3/Rev.1).

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(f) Report of the Secretary-General on the prevention of corrupt practices and transfer of funds of illicit origin (A/57/158 and Add.1 and 2);

(g) Letter dated 10 April 2002 from the Permanent Representatives of Australia and Indonesia to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General, transmitting a statement summarizing the key outcomes of the Regional Ministerial Conference on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime, held in Bali, Indonesia, from 26 to 28 February 2002 (A/57/64);

(h) Letter dated 20 August 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Fiji to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General transmitting the communiqué of the thirty-third Meeting of the Pacific Islands Forum, held in Fiji from 15 to 17 August 2002 (A/57/331);

(i) Letter dated 11 October 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Lithuania to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/C.3/57/3).

4. At the 2nd meeting, on 30 September, the Executive Director of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention made an introductory statement (see A/C.3/57/SR.2).

5. At the same meeting, the Committee engaged in a dialogue with the Executive Director of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention, in which the representatives of Nepal, Algeria, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Pakistan, Senegal and Afghanistan took part (see A/C.3/57/SR.2).

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolution A/C.3/57/L.2

6. By its resolution 2002/8 of 24 July 2002, the Economic and Social Council recommended to the General Assembly the adoption of a draft resolution entitled "International cooperation in the fight against transnational organized crime: assistance to States in capacity-building with a view to facilitating the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the protocols thereto". The draft resolution was reproduced in document A/C.3/57/L.2.

7. At its 15th meeting, on 10 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/57/L.2 without a vote (see para. 22, draft resolution I).

B. Draft resolution A/C.3/57/L.3

8. By its resolution 2002/9 of 24 July 2002, the Economic and Social Council recommended to the General Assembly the adoption of a draft resolution entitled "High-level political conference for the purpose of signing the United Nations convention against corruption". The draft resolution was reproduced in document A/C.3/57/L.3.

9. At its 15th meeting, on 10 October, the Committee had before it a statement of the programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.3/57/L.3, submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the

General Assembly (A/C.3/57/L.11), which the Secretariat orally corrected by deleting the last sentence of paragraph 7.

10. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/57/L.3 without a vote (see para. 22, draft resolution II).

11. After the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement was made by the representative of Mexico (see A/C.3/57/SR.15).

C. Draft resolution A/C.3/57/L.4

12. By its resolution 2002/10 of 24 July 2002, the Economic and Social Council recommended to the General Assembly the adoption of a draft resolution entitled "Follow-up to the plans of action for the implementation of the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century". The draft resolution was reproduced in document A/C.3/57/L.4.

13. At its 15th meeting, on 10 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/57/L.4 without a vote (see para. 22, draft resolution III).

D. Draft resolution A/C.3/57/L.5

14. By its resolution 2002/11 of 24 July 2002, the Economic and Social Council recommended to the General Assembly the adoption of a draft resolution entitled "Preparations for the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice". The draft resolution was reproduced in document A/C.3/57/L.5.

15. At its 15th meeting, on 10 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/57/L.5 without a vote (see para. 22, draft resolution IV).

E. Draft resolution A/C.3/57/L.8

16. At the 9th meeting, on 7 October, the representative of Egypt, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of African States, introduced a draft resolution entitled "United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders" (A/C.3/57/L.8). The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia subsequently joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

17. At its 15th meeting, on 10 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/57/L.8 without a vote (see para. 22, draft resolution V).

F. Draft resolution A/C.3/57/L.10

18. At the 9th meeting, on 7 October, the representative of Italy, on behalf of Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Belgium, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Cyprus, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea,

Romania, the Russian Federation, San Marino, Senegal, Slovakia, Spain, Swaziland, Sweden, Thailand, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United Republic of Tanzania and Yugoslavia, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity" (A/C.3/57/L.10). Subsequently, Belarus, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Cameroon, Colombia, Croatia, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Gabon, Guatemala, Iceland, Japan, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Malawi, Mali, Mozambique, Peru, the Republic of Moldova, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, Sri Lanka, Suriname, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Venezuela, Zambia and Zimbabwe joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

19. At its 15th meeting, on 10 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/57/L.10 without a vote (see para. 22, draft resolution VI).

20. After the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement was made by the representative of India (see A/C.3/57/SR.15).

G. Draft decision proposed by the Chairman

21. At its 15th meeting, on 10 October, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided to recommend that the General Assembly take note of the reports of the Secretary-General on the preparations for the Eleventh Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice (A/57/154); and on the prevention of corrupt practices and transfer of funds of illicit origin (A/57/158 and Add. 1 and Add.2) (see para. 23).

III. Recommendations of the Third Committee

22. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I
International cooperation in the fight against transnational organized crime: assistance to States in capacity-building with a view to facilitating the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the protocols thereto

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/25 of 15 November 2000, by which it adopted the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its resolution 55/255 of 31 May 2001, by which it adopted the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts, and

Components and Ammunition, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime,

Recalling also its resolution 56/120 of 19 December 2001, in which it requested the Secretary-General to provide the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention of the Secretariat with the resources necessary to enable it to promote, in an effective manner, the entry into force and implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto and encouraged Member States to make adequate voluntary contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund, in accordance with article 30 of the Convention, for the provision of technical assistance to developing countries and countries with economies in transition for implementation of those international legal instruments,

Reaffirming its deep concern over the impact of transnational organized crime on the political, social and economic stability and development of societies,

Reaffirming that the adoption of the Convention and the Protocols thereto is a significant development in international criminal law and that they constitute important instruments for effective international cooperation against transnational organized crime,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on promoting the ratification of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto;[2]

2. *Welcomes* the fact that a number of States have already ratified the Convention and the Protocols thereto, and reiterates the importance of ensuring the speedy entry into force of those instruments in accordance with its resolutions 55/25 and 55/255;

3. *Commends* the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention of the Secretariat for its work in promoting the ratification of the Convention and the Protocols thereto;

4. *Welcomes* the proposed action by the Centre for International Crime Prevention, described in the report of the Secretary-General,[2] to promote the early entry into force and implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto;

5. *Also welcomes* the financial support provided by several donors to promote the entry into force and implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, and further encourages Member States to make sufficient voluntary contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund for the provision of technical assistance to developing countries and countries with economies in transition for the implementation of those international legal instruments;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to provide the Centre for International Crime Prevention with the resources necessary to enable it to promote, in an effective manner, the entry into force and implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto;

[2] E/CN.15/2002/10.

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to report on the implementation of the present resolution in his report on the work of the Centre for International Crime Prevention to be submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session.

Draft resolution II
High-level political conference for the purpose of signing the United Nations convention against corruption

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/61 of 4 December 2000, in which it decided to establish an ad hoc committee for the negotiation of an international legal instrument against corruption,

Recalling also its resolution 56/260 of 31 January 2002 on the terms of reference for the negotiation of an international legal instrument against corruption, in which it decided that the Ad Hoc Committee for the Negotiation of a Convention against Corruption, established pursuant to its resolution 55/61, should negotiate a broad and effective convention, which, subject to the final determination of its title, should be referred to as the "United Nations Convention against Corruption", and requested the Ad Hoc Committee to complete its work by the end of 2003,

Recalling further its resolutions 55/188 of 20 December 2000, on preventing and combating corrupt practices and illegal transfer of funds and repatriation of such funds to the countries of origin, and 56/186 of 21 December 2001, on preventing and combating corrupt practices and transfer of funds of illicit origin and returning such funds to the countries of origin,

Commending the efforts of the United Nations to address concerns about corruption in a global forum and the efforts of Member States to implement the various instruments and standards relating to corruption, including the United Nations Declaration against Corruption and Bribery in International Commercial Transactions[3] and the International Code of Conduct for Public Officials,[4]

Mindful of the fact that negotiations on the draft United Nations Convention against Corruption are continuing in Vienna in accordance with General Assembly resolutions 40/243 of 18 December 1985, 55/61 and 56/260,

1. *Notes* the progress made to date by the Ad Hoc Committee for the Negotiation of a Convention against Corruption, and urges the Ad Hoc Committee to endeavour to complete its work by the end of 2003;

2. *Accepts with appreciation* the offer made by the Government of Mexico to host a high-level political conference for the purpose of signing the convention;

3. *Decides* to convene the high-level political conference for the purpose of signing the convention in Mexico by the end of 2003;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to schedule the high-level political conference for a period of three days before the end of 2003 and to organize it in accordance with General Assembly resolution 40/243;

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[3] Resolution 51/191, annex.

[4] Resolution 51/59, annex.

5. *Requests* the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention of the Secretariat to work with the Government of Mexico, in consultation with Member States, in formulating proposals for the organization of the high-level political conference so that it may provide opportunities for high-level delegates to consider issues connected with the convention, in particular follow-up activities for its effective implementation and for future work in the area of fighting corruption;

6. *Invites* all States to arrange to be represented at the high-level political conference by persons at the highest possible level of government;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to provide the Centre for International Crime Prevention, which will act as the secretariat for the high-level political conference, with all the resources necessary for organizing the conference in an effective and appropriate manner.

Draft resolution III
Follow-up to the plans of action for the implementation of the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 55/59 of 4 December 2000, by which it endorsed the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century, adopted by the States Members of the United Nations and the other States participating in the high-level segment of the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders,[5] as contained in the annex to that resolution,

Recalling also its resolution 55/60 of 4 December 2000, in which it urged Governments, in their efforts to prevent and combat crime, especially transnational crime, and to maintain well-functioning criminal justice systems, to be guided by the results of the Tenth Congress,

Recalling further its resolution 56/261 of 31 January 2002, in which it took note with appreciation of the plans of action for the implementation of the Vienna Declaration, which are contained in the annex to that resolution, and invited the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to follow up the implementation of the plans and to make any recommendations as appropriate,

Underlining the significance of the plans of action in providing guidance for the implementation of and follow-up to the commitments undertaken in the Vienna Declaration,

Having taken note of the fact that the plans of action reflect a wide range of United Nations standards and norms in crime prevention and criminal justice,

Recognizing that effective follow-up to the plans of action could promote the use and application of those standards and norms while facilitating an effective

[5] See *Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Vienna, 10-17 April 2000: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.00.IV.8).

long-term response to the challenges of the twenty-first century in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice,

1. *Invites* Governments and relevant intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations to consider carefully and to use, as appropriate, the plans of action for the implementation of the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century, which are contained in the annex to resolution 56/261, as guidance for the formulation of legislation, policies and programmes in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice at the national and international levels;

2. *Requests* the Secretariat to report to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its twelfth session on the outcome of its discussion with the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme Network of Institutes regarding their possible contribution to the implementation of the plans of action, pursuant to resolution 56/261;

3. *Requests* the Executive Director of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention of the Secretariat to keep the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice informed of the progress made in the follow-up to the plans of action in his reports on the work of the Centre for International Crime Prevention;

4. *Invites* the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, while formulating recommendations regarding the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice pursuant to General Assembly resolution 56/119 of 19 December 2001, to take into account the progress made in the follow-up to the Vienna Declaration and the plans of action, as well as new developments that have taken place in the meantime in the areas covered by the Vienna Declaration.

Draft resolution IV
Preparations for the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/119 of 19 December 2001 on the role, function, periodicity and duration of the United Nations congresses on the prevention of crime and the treatment of offenders,

Considering that, pursuant to its resolutions 415 (V) of 1 December 1950 and 46/152 of 18 December 1991, the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice is to be held in 2005,

Bearing in mind the guidelines for and the new format of the United Nations congresses, as stipulated in paragraph 2 of resolution 56/119, as well as paragraphs 29 and 30 of the statement of principles and programme of action of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, annexed to resolution 46/152,

Recalling that, in its resolution 56/119, it requested the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, as the preparatory body for the United Nations congresses, to formulate, at its eleventh session, recommendations regarding the

Eleventh Congress, including recommendations on the main topic, the organization of round tables and workshops to be held by panels of experts and the venue and duration of the Congress, and to submit those recommendations, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly at its fifty-seventh session,

Recognizing the significant contributions of the United Nations congresses in promoting the exchange of experiences in research, law and policy development and the identification of emerging trends and issues in crime prevention and criminal justice among States, intergovernmental organizations and individual experts representing various professions and disciplines,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice on its eleventh session[6] and of its discussion on the preparations for the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;[7]

2. *Decides* that the main theme of the Eleventh Congress shall be "Synergies and responses: strategic alliances in crime prevention and criminal justice";

3. *Suggests* that the following topics be included for discussion during the plenary session of the Eleventh Congress, and notes that Member States may refine these topics and propose additional topics at future intersessional meetings of the Commission for finalization at its twelfth session:

(a) Effective measures against transnational organized crime;

(b) Corruption: threats and trends in the twenty-first century;

(c) Economic and financial crimes: challenges to sustainable development;

(d) Making standards work: fifty years of standard-setting in crime prevention and criminal justice;

4. *Also suggests* that the following issues be considered by workshops within the framework of the Eleventh Congress, and notes that Member States may refine these issues and propose additional workshop topics at future intersessional meetings of the Commission for finalization at its twelfth session:

(a) Measures to combat economic crime: the role of the private sector;

(b) Cross-border law enforcement cooperation;

(c) Human rights in criminal justice;

(d) Restorative justice: community involvement, diversion and other alternative measures;

(e) Links between transnational organized crime and terrorism;

(f) Measures to combat high-technology and computer-related crime;

(g) Measures to combat money-laundering;

(h) Combating corruption;

(i) Crime prevention strategies for youth at risk;

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[6] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2002, Supplement No. 10 and Corrigendum* (E/2002/30 and Corr.1).

[7] Ibid., chap. VII.

(j) Current practices in and ways of overcoming obstacles to extradition;

5. *Requests* the Secretary-General to facilitate the organization of regional preparatory meetings for the Eleventh Congress;

6. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to prepare, in cooperation with the institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network, a discussion guide for the regional preparatory meetings for the Eleventh Congress for the consideration of the Commission, and invites Member States to be involved actively in that process;

7. *Accepts with gratitude* the offer of the Government of Thailand to host the Eleventh United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and requests the Secretary-General to initiate consultations with the Government of Thailand and to report to the Commission at its twelfth session;

8. *Decides* that the duration of the Eleventh Congress shall not exceed eight days, including pre-Congress consultations;

9. *Invites* Member States to be represented at the Eleventh Congress at the highest possible level, for example, by heads of State or Government or government ministers and attorneys general, to make statements on the theme and topics of the Congress and to participate in thematic interactive round tables;

10. *Encourages* relevant specialized agencies, United Nations programmes and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, as well as other professional organizations, to cooperate with the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention of the Secretariat in the preparations for the Eleventh Congress;

11. *Reiterates its request* to the Secretary-General to provide the Centre for International Crime Prevention with the necessary resources, within the overall appropriations of the programme budget for the biennium 2002-2003, for the preparations for the Eleventh Congress and to ensure that adequate resources are provided in the programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005 to support the holding of the Congress;

12. *Requests* the Secretary-General to make available the necessary resources for the participation of the least developed countries in the regional preparatory meetings for the Eleventh Congress and at the Congress itself, in accordance with past practice;

13. *Requests* the Commission, at its twelfth session, to finalize the programme for the Eleventh Congress and to make its final recommendations, through the Economic and Social Council, to the General Assembly;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to ensure the proper follow-up to the present resolution and to report thereon to the General Assembly through the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice at its twelfth session.

Draft resolution V
United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/122 of 19 December 2001 and all other relevant resolutions,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General,[8]

Bearing in mind the urgent need to establish effective crime prevention strategies for Africa, as well as the importance of law enforcement agencies and the judiciary at the regional and subregional levels,

Noting that the financial situation of the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders has greatly affected its capacity to deliver its services to African Member States in an effective and comprehensive manner,

1. *Commends* the United Nations African Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders for its efforts to promote and coordinate regional technical cooperation activities related to crime prevention and criminal justice systems in Africa;

2. *Commends* the Secretary-General for his efforts to mobilize the financial resources necessary to provide the Institute with the core professional staff required to enable it to function effectively in the fulfilment of its mandated obligations;

3. *Reiterates* the need to strengthen further the capacity of the Institute to support national mechanisms for crime prevention and criminal justice in African countries;

4. *Urges* the States members of the Institute to make every possible effort to meet their obligations to the Institute;

5. *Calls upon* all Member States and non-governmental organizations to adopt concrete practical measures to support the Institute in the development of the requisite capacity and to implement its programmes and activities aimed at strengthening crime prevention and criminal justice systems in Africa;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to intensify efforts to mobilize all relevant entities of the United Nations system to provide the necessary financial and technical support to the Institute to enable it to fulfil its mandate;

7. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to continue his efforts to mobilize the financial resources necessary to maintain the Institute with the core professional staff required to enable it to function effectively in the fulfilment of its mandated obligations;

8. *Calls upon* the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme and the United Nations International Drug Control Programme to work closely with the Institute;

[8] A/57/135.

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to enhance the promotion of regional cooperation, coordination and collaboration in the fight against crime, especially in its transnational dimension, which cannot be dealt with adequately by national action alone;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to make concrete proposals, including the provision of additional core professional staff, to strengthen the programmes and activities of the Institute and to report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

Draft resolution VI
Strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 46/152 of 18 December 1991 on the creation of an effective United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme, in which it approved the statement of principles and programme of action annexed to that resolution,

Recalling also its resolution 56/123 of 19 December 2001 on strengthening the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, in particular its technical cooperation capacity,

Emphasizing the role of the United Nations in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, specifically the reduction of criminality, more efficient and effective law enforcement and administration of justice, respect for human rights and the rule of law, and promotion of the highest standards of fairness, humanity and professional conduct,

Recognizing that action against global criminal activity is a common and shared responsibility,

Convinced of the desirability of closer coordination and cooperation among States in combating crime, including organized crime, corruption, the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons, especially women and children, drug-related crimes, money-laundering, the illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts and components and ammunition and the criminal misuse of information technologies, as well as criminal activities carried out for the purpose of furthering terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, bearing in mind the role that could be played by both the United Nations and regional organizations in this respect,

Recognizing existing efforts at the regional level that complement the work of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme in combating the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons, especially women and children, and noting in this context the outcomes of the Regional Ministerial Conference on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime, held at Bali, Indonesia, from 26 to 28 February 2002,[9] and the seventh

[9] See A/57/64.

Regional Conference on Migration, held at Antigua, Guatemala, from 28 to 31 May 2002, as part of the Puebla Process,

Recognizing also the urgent need to increase technical cooperation activities to assist countries, in particular developing countries and countries with economies in transition, with their efforts in translating United Nations conventions and other legal instruments and policy guidelines into practice,

Recalling its resolution 55/25 of 15 November 2000, by which it adopted the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, and its resolution 55/255 of 31 May 2001, by which it adopted the Protocol against the Illicit Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, Their Parts and Components and Ammunition,

Emphasizing the importance of the expeditious entry into force of the Convention and the Protocols thereto as a milestone in the efforts to fight and prevent organized crime, one of the most serious contemporary threats to democracy and peace,

Recognizing the need to maintain a balance in the technical cooperation capacity of the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention of the Secretariat between all priorities identified by the General Assembly and the Economic and Social Council,

Recalling its relevant resolutions, in which it requested the Secretary-General, as a matter of urgency, to provide the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme with sufficient resources for the full implementation of its mandate, in conformity with the high priority attached to the Programme,

Recalling also its resolution 56/253 of 24 December 2001, in which it requested the Secretary-General to make proposals to strengthen the Terrorism Prevention Branch at the United Nations Office at Vienna and to report thereon to the General Assembly for its consideration,

Bearing in mind the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century, adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 55/59 of 4 December 2000,

Recalling the plans of action for the implementation of the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century, annexed to General Assembly resolution 56/261 of 31 January 2002,

Recalling also its resolution 56/260 of 31 January 2002, by which the General Assembly established the terms of reference of the Ad Hoc Committee for the Negotiation of a Convention against Corruption,

Recalling further Economic and Social Council resolution 2002/19 of 24 July 2002, entitled "Strengthening international cooperation and technical assistance within the framework of the activities of the Centre for International Crime Prevention in preventing and combating terrorism",

Welcoming the progress made thus far by the Ad Hoc Committee for the Negotiation of a Convention against Corruption,

Aware of the continued increase in requests for technical assistance forwarded to the Centre for International Crime Prevention by least developed countries, developing countries, countries with economies in transition and countries emerging from conflict,

Appreciating the funding provided by certain Member States in 2001 and 2002 that has permitted the Centre to enhance its capacity to execute an increased number of projects,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the progress made in the implementation of General Assembly resolution 56/123;[10]

2. *Affirms* the importance of the work of the Centre for International Crime Prevention of the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention of the Secretariat in the fulfilment of its mandate, including to prevent and combat terrorism, and in particular in strengthening international cooperation and providing technical assistance, upon request, which complements the work of the Counter-Terrorism Committee of the Security Council, and in this context takes note with appreciation of the report of the Secretary-General on strengthening the Terrorism Prevention Branch of the Secretariat requested by the General Assembly in its resolution 56/253;[11]

3. *Reaffirms* the importance of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme in promoting effective action to strengthen international cooperation in crime prevention and criminal justice, in responding to the needs of the international community in the face of both national and transnational criminality and in assisting Member States in achieving the goals of preventing crime within and among States and improving the response to crime;

4. *Also reaffirms* the role of the Centre for International Crime Prevention in providing to Member States, upon request, technical cooperation, advisory services and other forms of assistance in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, including in the areas of prevention and control of transnational organized crime and terrorism, as well as in the area of reconstruction of national criminal justice systems;

5. *Welcomes* the programme of work of the Centre for International Crime Prevention, including the three global programmes addressing, trafficking in human beings, corruption and organized crime, formulated on the basis of close consultations with Member States and the review by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, and calls upon the Secretary-General to enhance further the visibility of that programme of work and to strengthen the Centre by providing it with the resources necessary for the full implementation of its mandate;

6. *Supports* the high priority given to technical cooperation and advisory services in the field of crime prevention and criminal justice, including in the areas of prevention and control of transnational organized crime and terrorism, and stresses the need to enhance the operational activities of the Centre for International Crime Prevention to assist, in particular, developing countries, countries with economies in transition and countries emerging from conflict;

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[10] A/57/153.

[11] A/57/152 and Corr.1 and Add.1 and Add.1/Corr.1 and Add.2.

7. *Urges* States and relevant international organizations to develop national, regional and international strategies and other necessary measures that complement the work of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme in addressing effectively the significant problems posed by the smuggling of migrants and trafficking in persons and related activities;

8. *Invites* all States to support, through voluntary contributions to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund, the operational activities of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme, including for the provision of technical assistance for the implementation of the commitments entered into at the Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders,[12] including the measures outlined in the plans of action to implement the Vienna Declaration on Crime and Justice: Meeting the Challenges of the Twenty-first Century annexed to resolution 56/261;

9. *Encourages* relevant programmes, funds and organizations of the United Nations system, in particular the United Nations Development Programme, international financial institutions, in particular the World Bank, and regional and national funding agencies, to support the technical operational activities of the Centre for International Crime Prevention;

10. *Urges* States and funding agencies to review, as appropriate, their funding policies for development assistance and to include a crime prevention and criminal justice component in such assistance;

11. *Welcomes* the efforts undertaken by the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to exercise more vigorously its mandated function of resource mobilization, and calls upon the Commission to strengthen further its activities in this direction;

12. *Expresses its appreciation* to non-governmental organizations and other relevant sectors of civil society for their support to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme;

13. *Invites* relevant entities of the United Nations system, including the United Nations International Drug Control Programme, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Bank, and other international funding agencies to increase their interaction with the Centre for International Crime Prevention, in order to benefit from synergies and avoid duplication of effort, and to ensure that, as appropriate, activities on crime prevention and criminal justice, including activities related to the prevention of corruption, are considered in their sustainable development agenda, and that the expertise of the Centre in activities related to crime prevention and criminal justice, including activities related to the prevention of corruption and the promotion of the rule of law, is fully utilized;

14. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures to provide adequate support to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, as the principal policy-making body in this field, in performing its activities, including cooperation and coordination with United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme Network of Institutes and other relevant bodies;

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[12] See *Tenth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Vienna, 10-17 April 2000: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.00.IV.8).

15. *Urges* all States and regional economic organizations that have not yet done so to sign and ratify the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto as soon as possible in order to ensure their speedy entry into force;

16. *Welcomes* the voluntary contributions already made, and encourages States to make adequate and regular voluntary contributions for the entry into force and implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, through the United Nations funding mechanism specifically designed for that purpose in the Convention;

17. *Requests* the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures and to provide adequate support to the Centre for International Crime Prevention so as to enable it to promote the speedy entry into force of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, including the organization of a treaty event, in cooperation with the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat, in 2003;

18. *Reaffirms* the importance of the completion of the work of the Ad Hoc Committee for the Negotiation of a Convention against Corruption in accordance with the terms of General Assembly resolution 56/260, and urges the Ad Hoc Committee to endeavour to complete its work by the end of 2003;

19. *Welcomes* the decision of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice to mainstream a gender perspective into its activities and its request to the Secretariat that a gender perspective be integrated into all activities of the Centre for International Crime Prevention;

20. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session.

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23. The Third Committee also recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Documents considered by the General Assembly in connection with the question of crime prevention and criminal justice

The General Assembly takes note of the following documents:

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on the preparations for the Eleventh Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice;[13]

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on the prevention of corrupt practices and transfer of funds of illicit origin.[14]

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[13] A/57/154.

[14] A/57/158 and Add.1 and 2.